

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Claims 9-16 have been cancelled without prejudice as being directed to the non-elected invention.

Claims 1-3 have been amended to recite the phrase "to make a compound of the formula (IV/III)" as kindly suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is deemed to be overcome.

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's indication that claims 6-8 are free of the prior art.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that each ground of rejection set forth in the Official Action has been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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